

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-020-95-1220-00; N2-5-95]

Nevada; Temporary Closure of Certain Public Lands in the Winnemucca District for Management of the Summer 1995 Running of the "Fernley 250" Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Race**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (Interior).**ACTION:** Temporary closure of certain Public Lands in Washoe, Lyon and Churchill Counties, Nevada on and adjacent to the 1995 "Fernley 250" race course on June 24, 1995. Access will be limited to race officials, entrants, law-enforcement and emergency personnel, licensed permittee(s) and right-of-way grantees.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Certain public lands in the Winnemucca District, Washoe, Lyon and Pershing Counties will be temporarily closed to public access from 0600 hours, June 24, 1995 to 2400 hours June 24, 1995, to protect persons, property and public land resources on and adjacent to the 1995 "Fernley 250" OHV race course. The Sonoma-Gerlach Area Manager is the authorized officer for the 1995 "Fernley 250" OHV race, permit number N2-5-95. These temporary closures and restrictions are made pursuant to 43 CFR Part 8364. The public lands to be closed or restricted are those lands adjacent to and including roads, trails and washed identified as the 1995 "Fernley 250" OHV race course.

The following public lands administered by the BLM restricted or closed are described as the following:

T. 21 N., R. 24. E., Sec. 36; T. 22 N., R. 24 E., Sec. 2 and 12; T. 23 N., R. 24 E., Sec. 4, 8, 12, 14, 16, 22 and 26; T. 24 N., R. 24 E., Sec. 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 20, 22 and 28; T. 25 N., R. 24 E., Sec. 36; T. 21 N., R. 25 E., Sec. 6, 8, 12, 14, 20, 22, 28, and 32; T. 20 N., R. 25 E., Sec. 4 and 6; T. 21 N., R. 25 E., Sec. 6, 8, 12, 14, 22 and 28; T. 22 N., R. 25 E., Sec. 18 and 30; T. 23 N., R. 25 E., Sec. 2, 6, 10, 12 and 14; T. 24 N., R. 25 E., Sec. 8, 18, 20, 30, 32, 34 and 36; T. 25 N., R. 25 E., Sec. 30, 31, and 32; T. 21 N., R. 26 E., Sec. 6 and 8; T. 21 N., R. 26 E., Sec. 6; T. 22 N., R. 26 E., Sec. 2, 14, 22, 28, and 32; T. 23 N., R. 26 E., Sec. 4, 6, 10, 22, 26, and 36; T. 24 N., R. 26 E., Sec. 28, 30 and 32.

The following public lands administered by the BLM will be designated as a secondary pit area: T. 23 N., R. 24 E., Sec. 14.

The lands involved are located in the Mount Diablo Meridian and are located north and northeast of Fernley, Nevada. They are within Washoe, Pershing and Lyon Counties. A map showing the exact route of the course is available

from the following BLM office: the Winnemucca District Office, 705 East Fourth Street, Winnemucca, Nevada, 89445, (702) 623-1500.

Any person who fails to comply with this closure order issued under 43 CFR Part 8364 may be subject to the penalties provided for in 43 CFR 8360.7
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynn Clemons, 705 East Fourth Street, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445, (702) 623-1500.

Dated: May 25, 1995.

Ron Wenker,*District Manager, Winnemucca.*

[FR Doc. 95-13604 Filed 6-2-95; 8:45 am]

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[CA-066-05-1610-00]

Proposed California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment, Palm Springs-South Coast Resource Area, Southern California**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare a proposed plan amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan and environmental assessment.**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2), notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will prepare an environmental assessment and proposed California Desert Conservation Area plan amendment affecting public lands within the Palm Springs-South Coast Resource Area. The proposed plan amendments would expand two existing Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): the Big Morongo Canyon ACEC (No. 50) and the Salt Creek Pupfish/Rail Habitat ACEC (No. 60). The name of the Salt Creek ACEC would also be changed to Dos Palmas ACEC.**DATES:** Citizens are requested to help identify significant issues or concerns related to the proposed plan amendments. Recommendations from citizens regarding additional plan amendments may also be considered, for example, new ACECs or changing land use designations. Written comments must be submitted no later than 30 days from the date of this notice to the following address: Ms. Julia Dougan, Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management Palm Springs-South Coast Resource Area, 63-500 Garnet Avenue, North Palm Springs, CA 92258-2000. Citizens submitting comments will

automatically be included in the mailing list to receive a copy of the Proposed Plan and Environmental Assessment when available.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: If you require additional information or simply would like to be included in the mailing list, contact Ms. Elena Misquez, Bureau of Land Management Palm Springs-South Coast Resource Area, 63-500 Garnet Avenue, North Palm Springs, CA 92258-2000; telephone(619) 251-4826.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Big Morongo Canyon ACEC currently includes 3,705 acres of public land just east of Highway 62, and 7 miles north of Interstate 10, San Bernardino County. BLM proposes to expand the ACEC to establish a corridor between the BLM-managed public lands and Joshua Tree National Park, 5 miles due east. Management prescriptions for the ACEC would only apply to the BLM-managed public lands. The proposed ACEC expansion would protect sensitive plant and wildlife habitat and wildlife movement corridors.

The Salt Creek Pupfish/Rail Habitat ACEC (4,288 acres) is located northeast of the Salton Sea and Highway 111 in Riverside County. The ACEC would be renamed as the Dos Palmas ACEC in recognition of the Dos Palmas Ecosystem of which the Salt Creek ACEC is an integral part. The ACEC boundary would be expanded to approximately 17,000 acres to include additional public lands and lands acquired by The Nature Conservancy for the protection of sensitive plant, wildlife and cultural resources. Management prescriptions for the ACEC would not apply to non-TNC private lands within the proposed ACEC boundary. TNC and BLM would continue their acquisition effort from willing sellers within the proposed ACEC boundary.

Public participation is an integral part of the planning and NEPA process in which members of the public are informed of proposed actions affecting the public lands and resources, and are encouraged to submit comments regarding these proposals. For 30-days commencing the date of this notice, citizens are formally requested to identify issues and to suggest alternative or new proposals to be addressed in the proposed plan and environmental assessment. Upon completion of the proposed plan amendment and environmental assessment, a notice of availability will be published in the **Federal Register** followed by a 60-day public comment period. Plan protests filed in accordance with 43 CFR 1610.5-

2 will be accepted for 30-days following issuance of the final Plan. The plan will become effective when all protests have been resolved and a Decision Record is signed by the authorized officer.

Julia Dougan,
Area Manager.

[FR Doc. 95-13592 Filed 6-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

[UT-046-05-4210-0-03-5]

Intent To Prepare Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Plan Amendment to Virgin River Management Framework Plan, UT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed plan amendment to the Virgin River Management Framework Plan (MFP).

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise the public that the Bureau of Land Management is preparing an EIS to consider proposed amendments to the land use plan that guides management of public lands within the Dixie Resource Area located in Washington County, Utah. The proposed amendment would consider alternatives for additional opportunities for land tenure adjustments.

DATES: The comment period for the preliminary issues and planning criteria identified for the proposed plan amendments will commence with publication of this notice. Comments must be submitted on or before July 5, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Crisp, Area Manager, Dixie Resource Area, 345 E. Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84770. Existing planning documents and information are available at the above address or telephone (801) 673-4654, Ext. 201. Comments on the proposed plan amendment should be sent to the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Dixie Resource Area of the Cedar City District, BLM, is proposing to amend the Virgin River MFP, to allow for land tenure adjustments not previously identified in the MFP. The main purpose is to identify and analyze lands that could be exchanged and result in acquisition of special status species habitat including desert tortoise habitat and to consider exchange criteria under which future land exchanges could take place. Lands transferred out of Federal ownership to private, state and municipal interests, as a result of the exchanges would be

available to meet the various needs of the respective parties. Where there are specific uses proposed on lands identified for exchange, those uses will be analyzed. This would include the potential use of public lands as an area for water overflow storage associated with the Sand Hollow Reservoir that is proposed to be built on adjacent private land. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to analyze the impacts of this proposal and alternatives. This notice begins the BLM planning scoping process. Additional public meetings and scoping will occur during the development of this EIS.

Preliminary planning issues have been identified to consist of possible adverse impacts to public lands once removed from public ownership, conflicts or controversy surrounding the use of public lands for the "overflow" of water from adjacent private lands, economic impacts, impacts on other natural resource and special status species from land disposal.

The following preliminary planning criteria have been identified and set the parameters under which land exchanges may take place:

1. The action results in a net gain of important and manageable resource values on public land such as Desert Tortoise and other T&E species habitat, crucial wildlife habitat, significant cultural sites, high quality riparian area, live water, or areas key to the maintenance of productive ecosystems.

2. The action ensures the accessibility of public lands in areas where access is needed and cannot otherwise be obtained.

3. The action is essential to allow effective management on public lands in areas where consolidation of ownership is necessary to meet resource management objectives.

4. The action results in acquisition of lands that serve a national priority as identified in Federal policy directives.

The following disciplines will be utilized for interdisciplinary input through out the NEPA process: Archeologist, Lands and Realty Specialist, Wildlife Biologist, Range Conservationist, Botanist, Mineral Specialist and Geologist, Certified Appraiser, Engineer, Planning Specialist, Soils Scientist and Hydrologist.

The present land use plan for the Dixie Resource Area is the Virgin River Management Framework Plan (MFP) prepared in 1977. This land use plan is being revised and updated through preparation of a newer and more comprehensive Dixie Resource Management Plan (RMP) but the completion date is uncertain at this

time. The planning amendment now being initiated will amend either the Virgin River MFP or the Dixie RMP, which ever is the current document at the time this amendment is completed.

G. William Lamb,
Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 95-13618 Filed 6-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P

[AZ-040-05-1040 00]

Notice of Meeting for the Gila Box Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given in accordance with 43 CFR 1780 that a meeting of the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area (NCA) Advisory Committee will be held.

DATES: July 14, 1995, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Safford District Office.

ADDRESSES: BLM Safford District Office, 711 14th Ave., Safford, Arizona.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NCA Advisory Committee was established by Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990 to provide input to the Safford District on management of the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area (NCA). The Committee is continuing work on the Gila Box Interdisciplinary Activity Plan, which will be completed by December 1995.

The agenda for the meeting includes (1) refine management actions and (2) finalize preferred alternative.

All meetings are open to the public. Interested persons may make oral statements to the Committee between 10:30 and 11:00 a.m. or may file written statements for consideration by the Committee. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement must contact the BLM Gila Resource Area Manager at least two working days prior to the meeting. Written statements are also accepted at any time during preparation of the draft plan, and will be reviewed by the committee.

Statements should be mailed to Elmer Walls, Team Leader, Gila Resource Area, 711 14th Ave., Safford, Arizona 85546.

Summary minutes of the meeting will be maintained in the Safford District Office and will be available for public inspection (during regular business hours) within 30 days after each meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Meg Jensen, Gila Resource Area Manager, or Elmer Walls, Team Leader, 711 14th Ave.,